

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, as amended, remain herein.

1. Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Kraus U.S. Patent 3,954,174. However, Kraus fails to disclose that medicinal solution housing and the medical instrument housing comprise stiff base portions, and that the stiff base portion of the medicinal solution housing attaches to the stiff base portion of the medical instrument housing, as recited in applicants' amended claim 1. Rather, Kraus discloses a package made of sealed flexible sheets 14. A bottom surface of one of the flexible sheets attaches to flexible upper sheet 32 covering a tray 40. This allows the package to be flipped over to rest on top of the upper sheet 32 of the tray.

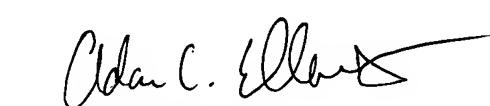
Since Kraus fails to disclose every element of applicants' claim 1, Kraus is an inadequate basis for rejecting claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, all claims 1-4 are now fully in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, he is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

Date: September 3, 2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger W. Parkhurst  
Reg. No. 25,177  
Adam C. Ellsworth  
Reg. No. 55,152

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP  
1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 429-3000  
Fax: (202) 429-3902

Attorney Docket No.: 29336.0002